THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (d) Complaints regarding corruption and lack of integrity have been received from time to time. The merit of each complaint is looked into, if necessary through an inquiry, and action is taken on the basis of the existing guidelines.

Plan to increase the Potential of DD's Infrastructure

2342. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any specific plan to increase the potential of DD's infrastructure; and

(b) the reasons of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) The present infrastructure of Doordarshan, built over a period of time, comprises 52 studios and 1203 transmitters, located in various parts of the country. Increase in the potential of Doordarshan's infrastructure, both in terms of reach and quality, is a continuous process, and schemes in this regard are formulated and implemented by Prasar Bharati from time to time, within the constraints of resources available and inter-se priorities. At pesent, for further expansion of the Doordarshan network, 12 studios and 229 transmitters are at various stages of implementation.

Package for NER

2343. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to spend Rs. 1,100 crore in the North East Region and a package had been promised to improve the DD Telecasts in this area as it was felt that transmitters in this region were not powerful enough to counter the propaganda emanating from Bangladesh and Myanmar;

(b) if so, whether the amount of the package has been pruned;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when modern and powerful transmitters will be installed there?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (d) The Government proposes to strengthen and improve Doordarshan coverage in the North East Region through a special package. The size and extent of the package will depend upon availability of Financial Resources and inter-se priorities.

Complaints by Film Makers of Mumbai

2344. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that several film makers of Mumbai have lodged complaints with the police over extortion threats;

(b) whether recently Ajit Dewani, Secretary to film stars was shot dead; and

(c) if so, the action proposed to protect the film world from the grip of mafia terror?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c): "Police" is a State subject as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and, as such, registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crimes is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. Nevertheless, in order to facilitate a greater flow of institutional finance to the film industry, Notification dated 16.10.2000 was issued by the Ministry of Finance, whereunder the "Entertainment Industry including films" has been specified as an approved activity for accessing finance under the IDBI Act. The Industrial Development Bank of India and the Reserve Bank of India have also evolved guidelines to enable banks and financial institutions to fund proposals for financing of film production.

Proposal for Transforming the PCI

2345. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for transforming the Press Council of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor?